



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department of Emergency Management

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DISASTER FIELD OFFICE
7401 Timberlake Road
LYNCHBURG, VA 24502
FEMA-1458-DR-VA
Commonwealth Situation Report #13
Monday, April 14, 2003

1. OPERATIONAL PERIOD:

12:00 Noon Saturday, April 12, 2003, through 12:00 Noon, Monday, April 14, 2003. (*New Information in bold italics*)

2. SITUATION:

A major winter storm struck Virginia beginning February 15 causing major flooding in Southwest Virginia and significant ice and snowfall in the Shenandoah Valley and areas of Northern Virginia. The weather pattern continued to bring warmer temperatures, melting snow/ice and more heavy rainfall, which combined to cause more local flooding.

Governor Mark R. Warner declared a State of Emergency on February 16, 2003, to speed state agency assistance and resources to localities in need. The counties of Accomack, Augusta, Buchanan, Dickenson, Essex, Fauquier, Frederick, Highland, Loudoun, Madison, Orange, Russell, Shenandoah, Tazewell, Warren, Wise and Wythe and the cities of Norton, Richmond, Salem and Winchester declared emergencies.

The Governor requested the federal Public Assistance program (PA) on February 28th for snow and/or flooding for the following localities: the counties of Albemarle, Arlington, Bland, Buchanan, Clarke, Craig, Culpeper, Dickenson, Essex, Fairfax, Fauquier, Frederick, Grayson, Greene, Highland, Lee, Louisa, Loudoun, Madison, Orange, Prince William, Rappahannock, Russell, Scott, Shenandoah, Stafford, Spotsylvania, Tazewell, Warren, Wise and Wythe and the cities of Alexandria, Charlottesville, Fairfax, Falls Church, Fredericksburg, Manassas, Manassas Park, Norton, Richmond, Salem and Winchester.

The Governor requested the federal Individual Assistance program (IA) on March 4 for these winter storm events in the counties of Augusta, Buchanan, Dickenson, Fauquier, Frederick, Loudoun, Madison,

Montgomery, Prince William, Roanoke including the Town of Vinton, Russell, Shenandoah, Tazewell, Warren, Wise and Wythe and the cities of Norton, Roanoke, Salem and Winchester.

A Major Presidential Disaster Declaration (FEMA-1458-DR-VA) was declared on March 27, 2003. The counties of Buchanan, Dickenson, Montgomery, Russell, Tazewell and Wise and the cities of Norton, Roanoke and Salem were designated for Individual Assistance (IA). Public Assistance (PA) is available for the counties of Arlington, Clarke, Fairfax, Fauquier, Frederick, Highland, Loudoun, Orange and Rappahannock and the cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church and Winchester. A Disaster Field Office was opened in Lynchburg on March 31, 2003. The hours of operation are 7:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., daily, and closed Sundays.. The DFO telephone number is 434-832-8440 and the fax number is 434-832-8544.

The Virginia Farm Service Agency (FSA) has made emergency (EM) physical loss loans available to 10 Virginia counties due to blizzard damages that occurred from Feb 15-Feb 18, 2003. Those counties are Amelia, Augusta, Culpeper, Fauquier, Highland, Page, Prince William, Rappahannock, Rockingham and Shenandoah. In addition to the above counties, 25 other Virginia counties/cities were named as contiguous counties/cities where eligible family farmers may qualify for FSA EM physical loss loan assistance. Those Virginia counties/cities are Albemarle, Bath, Chesterfield, Clarke, Cumberland, Dinwiddie, Fairfax, Frederick, Greene, Harrisonburg City, Loudoun, Madison, Manassas City, Manassas Park City, Nelson, Nottoway, Orange, Powhatan, Prince Edward, Rockbridge, Spotsylvania, Stafford, Staunton City, Warren, and Waynesboro City. These loans to Virginia counties/cities may be made available to applicants with a qualifying physical loss in the named counties/cities effective 3/18/03 through 11/18/03.

3. WEATHER:

Today. Mostly sunny and warm. Highs 75 to 80. East winds 5 to 10 mph becoming south. Tonight. Mostly clear. Lows in the lower 50s. Southwest winds 5 to 10 mph. Tuesday. Sunny and continued warm. Highs near 80. Southwest winds 5 to 15 mph.

4. CURRENT PRIORITIES:

- A. Implement strategies to distribute information to affected areas..
- B. Coordinate with FEMA for DRC locations.
- C. Conduct classes for selected DFO staff..
- D. Implement Public assistance strategies.
- E. Establish the Task Force for DFO emergencies.
- F. Obtain state sum-sufficient funding for disaster.
- G. Manage expectations of disaster victims.

5. ONGOING ACTIONS/ISSUES:

A. Individual Assistance (IA):

STATE CONTACT: Shane Townsend, 434-832-8516

Individual Assistance request for the designation of additional jurisdictions:

A formal request for the designation of additional jurisdictions is currently being revised. The request should be finalized shortly.

Tele-registrations:
(As of COB 4-12)

Tele-Registrations			
Designated Jurisdictions		Undesignated Jurisdictions	
Buchanan Co.	244	Amherst Co.	1
Dickenson Co.	109	Arlington Co.	1
Montgomery Co.	31	Augusta Co.	1
Russell Co.	13	Bedford Co.	1
Tazewell Co.	20	Botetourt Co.	2
Wise Co.	94	Campbell Co.	1
Norton City	12	Franklin City	2
		Halifax Co.	1
		Henry Co.	1
		Lee Co.	1
Roanoke City	76	Pittsylvania	1
		Prince William	1
		Pulaski Co.	1
Salem City	90	Roanoke Co.	24
Total	689	Total	39

Inspection Services:
(As of COB 4-13)

FEMA contracted Housing Inspectors are dispatched to the damage address to assess damages for eligible registrations.

Inspections Issued, to date	550
Inspections Returned to FEMA	542
Inspections Outstanding	15
Inspectors in the Field	7
Turnaround Time	1.03

Individuals and Households Program (IHP) Overview:
(As of COB 4-13)

IHP is the premier federal grant program for Individual Assistance administered by FEMA and the Commonwealth. It is comprised of two components: Housing Assistance and Other Needs Assistance as listed below. The maximum grant that can be awarded is \$25,000.00 shared between the programs two components on a first come first served basis.

Eligibility Rate	68%
Registrations Referred	629
Registrations Approved	377
Registrations Ineligible	158
Registrations Withdrawn	17

<u>Registrations Pending</u>	<u>77</u>
Payments Approved	\$537,754.00
Payments Disbursed	\$454,407.00

Housing Assistance (HA): 100% Federal funded grants

A \$5,000.00 limit exists on grants for “housing repairs”.

Eligibility Rate	68%
Referrals	629
Approved	377
Ineligible	158
Withdrawn	17
<u>Pending HA Categories</u>	<u>77</u>
Amount Approved	\$537,754.00
Amount Disbursed	\$454,407.00

Other Needs Assistance (ONA): (75% Federal and 25% State funded Grants) Processing of referred applications to Other Needs Assistance must await the allocation of the estimated state share of funding. Some ONA grant categories are SBA Ineligible Dependent.

Eligibility Rate	0%
Referrals	269
Approved	0
Ineligible	95
Withdrawn	3
<u>Pending ONA Categories</u>	<u>171</u>
Amount Approved	\$0.00
Amount Disapproved	\$0.00

Small Business Administration: 100% Federal funded low interest loans
(As of **COB 4-13**)

<i>Home Applications Issued</i>	280
<i>Business Applications Issued</i>	25
<i>Total Applications Issued</i>	305
<i>Total Applications Returned</i>	36 (approved + pending)
<i>Total Applications Approved</i>	9
<i>Total Applications Pending</i>	27
<i>Total Amount Approved</i>	\$137,400.00

The SBA application return rate is at **approximately 12%**.

Sanctioned Communities:

Sanction communities are areas that are not enforcing flood plain management ordinances set forth by FEMA and the National Flood Insurance Program, meaning community residents cannot purchase flood insurance. The town of Clintwood in Dickenson County is such a community.

Dwellings located in a sanctioned community and in a 100-year flood plain or a high hazard area such as a riverfront generally may not be considered for:

- Housing Assistance (IHP)
- Other Needs Assistance (IHP)
- SBA Assistance with home repair or personal property losses that are covered by the National Flood Insurance Program.

Dwellings located in a sanctioned community and in a 100-year flood plain or high hazard area such as a riverfront generally may be considered for:

- FEMA Rental Assistance where damages make the dwelling unlivable.
- FEMA Home Repair funds for flood losses not covered by NFIP where those repairs will make the home livable.
- ONA or SBA assistance with home repair or personal property losses that are not covered by NFIP
- ONA assistance for Medical, Dental, Funeral and “Other” expenses/losses.

Dwellings located in a sanctioned community but not in a 100 year flood plain or a high hazard area such as a river front may be considered for assistance without regard to the sanctioned status.

Disaster Related Deaths Reported:

(As of **COB 4-13**)

Jurisdictions		Initial Reports		Validated Reports	
		No. of Fatalities	Source	No. of Fatalities	Source
1	Augusta Co.	1	News	1	EM Coord
2	Fauquier Co.	1	EM Coordinator	1	Cmty Relations
3	Frederick Co.	1	Times Dispatch	1	EM Coord
4	Gloucester Co.	1	Daily Press	1	EM Coord
5	Hanover Co.	1	VDEM PA	Pending	
6	Loudoun Co.	1	Times Dispatch	3	EM Coord
7	Montgomery Co.	1	Times Dispatch	1	EM Coord
8	New Kent Co.	1	Times Dispatch	1	Cmty Relations
9	Pulaski Co.	1	VDEM PA	1	*EM Coord
10	Roanoke Co.	1	Local SitRep	1	EM Coord
11	Shenandoah Co.	1	Washington Post	2	EM Coord
12	Spotsylvania Co.	1	EM Coord	1	EM Coord
13	Warren Co.	2	EM Coord/News	2	EM Coord

* Ineligible – Foreign Diplomatic Status

Disaster Recovery Centers (DRC):

The Virginia Department of Social Services has agreed to supply state DRC Managers for the following DRCs:

Reception Report

DRCs	Salem City	Buchanan Co	Wise Co	Dickenson
Apr 5	4	-	Opens Apr 14 th -	Opens Apr 21 st
Apr 6	9	-	-	-
Apr 7	14	-	-	-
Apr 8	13	17	-	-
Apr 9	16	14	-	-
Apr 10	13	5	-	-
April 11	12	16	-	-
April 12	6	8	-	-
Total	87	60	-	-

A DRC opened on Apr 5th at the Regional Office of the Virginia Department of Forestry, 210 Riverland Drive, Salem, Virginia 24153 Phone: (540) 387-5461 Fax: (540) 387-5462. Service hours are 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. ***Monday through Saturday.***

A DRC opened on Apr 8th, at the Buchanan County Courthouse, Main Street, Grundy, Virginia 24614 Phone: (276) 935-6567. Service hours are 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. ***Monday through Saturday.***

A DRC to serve Wise County is scheduled to open on Monday, April 14th, at 5701 Industrial Park Road in the town of Wise. This facility has been used in previous disasters as the Disaster Field Office. Hours of operation will be 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., ***Monday through Saturday.***

A DRC to serve Dickenson County is scheduled to open on Monday, April 21st, at fire station in the town of Clintwood. ***County officials have confirmed availability if the Clintwood Fire Department building on Volunteer Avenue from April 21-26 and from April 28 through May 2. Telephone installation is scheduled for April 18.*** Hours of operation will be 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. ***Monday through Saturday.***

B. Public Assistance (PA):

STATE CONTACT: Robert Anderson, 434-832-8506

- Requesting declaration add-on for snow emergency work only the following jurisdictions
Prince William County
Shenandoah County
Warren County
City of Manassas
City of Manassas Park
- Received one Request for Public Assistance from a potential applicant, Marymount College of Virginia – PNP – reviewing their eligibility.
- ***Received two project worksheets completed from Hyattsville, MD for processing.***
- ***Requesting declaration add-on for flooding for 17 additional jurisdictions in addition to the five listed above for snow.***
- ***Scheduling additional Kick-Off meetings for eligible Snow jurisdictions.***

C. Community Relations (CR):

STATE CONTACT: Danny Hall, 434-832-8507

- FEMA / State teams have been deployed to the declared localities and briefed on Community Relations activity for the field.
- Field Officers are distributing the FEMA telephone registration 1-800-621-FEMA.
- Field Officers are distributing the FEMA DRC location flyer in the Roanoke Valley and the Buchanan County/Grundy area.
- Field Officers are continuing to assess the unmet needs/ special needs in their assigned jurisdictions.
- Community Relations is validating reported fatalities during the declared disaster event. Upon receipt of the counties' designation, Field Officers will meet with the victims' families.

D. Hazard Mitigation (HM):

STATE CONTACT: *David Corzilius*, 434-832-8475

- Agenda for April 17th meeting with City of Roanoke, Roanoke County, and Cities of Salem and Vinton is completed.
- Continuing to edit the Public Assistance Environmental Consideration Document for DR 1458VA
- Developing an outline for environmental/historic resources coordinating agency scoping meeting.
- A floodplain management workshop for local officials, consultants, and others will be held on May 6, 2003, at the Eastern Mennonite Retirement Center in Harrisonburg, VA. The Central Shenandoah Project Impact, the VA Association of Floodplain Managers, and the Department of Conservation & Recreation will sponsor the workshop. The point of contact for registration information is Jackie Miller at 804-786-0237.
- As part of their Emergency Watershed Program, NCRS is conducting Damage Survey Reports visits in Wise, Russell, and Buchanan Counties. Mitigation has requested to be updated on the number of counties, the number of sites and estimated costs of the EWP work.
- Members of HM staff will attend a meeting with Congressman Boucher at his office in Abingdon to discuss the Hurley HMGP (Hazard Mitigation Grant Program) Project. Representatives from FEMA, HUD, Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development, Cumberland Plateau Planning District, and Buchanan County are also invited to attend. Meeting will be held on April 24, 2003 at 10:00 AM.
- Locations and schedules for the HMGP Pre-Application briefings are to be reviewed based upon the completion of the PDAs. Tentative schedule is the week of April 28th.

E. Public Affairs Office (PAO):

STATE CONTACT: *Bob Lambert*, 434-832-8508

- Continue work on the production of a comprehensive news-media contact list, including compiling e-mail addresses of statewide media contacts.
- Coordinated with Virginia Employment Commission on disaster unemployment release (pending activation).

- Field PIOs continued to contact news media in the declared area; distributed news releases and provided information on the recovery effort, emphasizing the amount of housing assistance provided to date and the Disaster Recovery Centers in Salem, Grundy and Wise.
- The two key messages are: Call to register for assistance – don't determine your own eligibility; visit the Disaster Recovery Center, and Disaster Assistance doesn't affect other government programs.
- Drafted a news release on localities added to the declaration. Will disseminate once the additional jurisdictions are confirmed.
- *Sent a news release on the opening of the Disaster Recovery Center in Clintwood at the fire station on April 21. The hours of operation will be from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday.*

F. Legislative Liaison:

STATE CONTACT: Marge Atkins, 434-832-8486

- *Compiled concise program documents for distribution to State elected officials.*
- *Continued to canvass State 4-year, community colleges, and private non-profit institutions in declared areas of northern Virginia for costs incurred during snow emergency at Deputy SCO's request.*
- *Interacted with FEMA Congressional Liaison on Senator Allen's appearance (non-disaster related) in South Boston on April 15.*

G. Information and Planning:

STATE CONTACT: Lew Wertz, 434-832-8538

- Continuing to refine the Situation Report input and distribution procedures.

H. Deputy State Coordinating Officer:

STATE CONTACT: Mary Camp, 434-832-8505

- Actions to review damage assessments *have been completed* in several jurisdictions and designations of eligibility for federal assistance should be known in the next *few* days.

Michael M. Cline, SCO

LEW/JMH/WAT
April 14, 2003